

THE TRAVELS OF THE

WILLIE HANDCART COM

Source: Journal of Peder Madsen (Danish), Church Archives. Translated by Tove Holden Jorgensen Johnson. Reasonable attempts have been made to follow the way Peder Madsen spelled names, e.g., "President Willie" is at first spelled "President Willard" and then later spelled "President Willei." Blank spaces in the journal are indicated by a line _____. Illegible words are indicated by a question mark in brackets [?]. *Copyright ownership for this translation rests with Paul D. Lyman, Richfield, Utah, July, 2006. Permission is granted to copy or to reproduce this journal without restriction.*

JOURNAL OF PEDER MADSEN
(Father of C. A. Madsen)
who died in Echo Canyon, en route for Salt Lake Valley, in the same company of handcarts that John A. Ahmanson crossed in
Andrew Jenson
Gunnison Feb. 1, 1904

April 23

The weather: beautiful, and the sea still during the night without wind.

The emigration party consisted of 162 people and departed on the steamship Rhoda from Copenhagen at 12:30 o'clock. Elder Ahmunsen was appointed as leader of the company from Copenhagen to Liverpool by the president of the Scandinavian Mission H. C. Haight. The saints were happy and bid a hearty farewell to the saints in Copenhagen. When we had passed Dragor Elder J. A. Ahmunsen called the brethren together below deck and gave necessary instructions and teachings. He called Elders J. Larsen and J. Svensen as his councilors and P. Madsen as his secretary. They were presented and unanimously accepted. Closed with prayer. We passed Møens Klint as the sun was setting. The company was happy and thankful, and a good spirit and order was present. Rasmine Mortensen was sick for two months and suffered from an intestinal obstruction. Mette Marie Madsen sick for six weeks and suffers from the ague (cold fever).

April 24

The weather: beautiful.

We arrived in Kiel at 5 o'clock in the morning and departed on the railroad train at 7 o'clock. We then arrived in Altona at 10 o'clock. Our agent Mr. Bendegs, who showed us much care and solicitude, had secured space for us at P. J. Carstens Shumager Aat Hous Grosburg Strasse no. 139 in Altona. We went up into a salon with a large hall attached, and two rooms with tables and chairs and several conveniences, where we stayed. Elder J. Ahmunsen called the company together at 4 o'clock and gave the necessary instructions for maintaining order and preserving a good spirit in love among the adults as well as among the children. Elders Jens Nielsen and Priest J. Hansen were appointed to maintain order. Thereafter Priest J. Hansen was ordained an elder by Elder J. A. Ahmunsen. It was determined to gather for prayer at 7 o'clock in the morning and at 9 o'clock in the evening.

April 25

The weather: beautiful.

At the prayer meeting talks were given about keeping order, and about how necessary it would be for the parents to take care of the children. The brothers and sisters visited Hamburg and made purchases of different things that seemed to be good bargains. In the evening there was a gathering for prayer. Elders Ahmunsen,

Svensen, and Larsen gave teachings and warnings.

April 26

The weather: unstable.

The brethren were called to council at 10 o'clock by President Ahmunsen who made it known to the brethren that 40 rigsdaler were needed for running expenses. This came in by voluntary contributions, namely ___ 39 rigsdaler, 4___14___. The president then encouraged these who were in need of help to make it known. Peder Jensen from Blangs then stood up and made it known that he was in need of provisions for four persons. J. Sandberg also needed help for one person. They were without money and needed provisions on the trip to England. It was suggested and unanimously decided to provide P. Jensen with 3 rigsdaler and Sandberg with 1 rigsdaler. P. Mortensen offered to feed Sandberg on the trip to England. Thereafter instructions and encouragement were given to the company, and the council meeting was closed with prayer. There was a payment of tips to the workers on the steamship which Elder Ahmunsen paid. At 12 o'clock our things should have been on board, but our host prevented it. He presented a bill of 45 rigsdaler for boiled water and a room Ahmunsen and I had stayed in. This unjust demand had to be met because the mayor was not available to give justice. We left his unjust abode at 4 o'clock and gathered ourselves by the dock and went on board the steamship Nordsøe at 6'o'clock. We took care of our things and united in prayer at 10 o'clock. The above named account was increased to 57 rigsdaler of which Mr. Bendegs paid 6 rigsdaler and Ahmunsen 51 rigsdaler. One rigsdaler and 3 ___ were spent for a taxi on this occasion, etc.

April 27

The weather: unstable, some rain and wind.

We left Hamburg at 5:30 o'clock in the morning and passed Glygstad at 8:30 o'clock , and gathered for worship service at 10 o'clock. In the afternoon the ocean was unsettled and caused seasickness among some of the company.

April 28

The weather: clear sky with a wind from the north.

Some members of the company were seasick because of the ship's rolling motion in the foaming waves. We arrived at Gribsby, England at 10 o'clock. We stayed in the ship overnight.

April 29

The weather: dense clouds. With rain and wind.

The company went ashore at 6 o'clock in the morning and was greeted by the brethren Elder Culhon and Elder Williams from Liverpool who accompanied us to the emigrant house, where we received some refreshments. We were cheerful and happy as we sang and prayed until 1 o'clock when we then left on the train for Liverpool. At 1:30 o'clock we passed Barneby, at 1:45 o'clock Brigg, at 2:15 o'clock Grensburg, at 3 o'clock Radsfort, at 4 o'clock Jekfort. At 5:15 o'clock we passed through the large tunnel. At 6 o'clock we passed Grybsted and then the large manufacturing city of Manchester. At 6:45 Resgods and then at 8 o'clock we arrived in Liverpool where Brother Richards, President of the European Mission, Apostle and Elder, had made arrangements for the company for lodging at Mr. Hammerstein's place at no. 13 Carl Street, and Madamme N. The company was treated to coffee and fine wheat bread with butter. We were then shown to our sleeping rooms. The Brothers Hans Rasmussen and Anders Jorgensen, who had come here before us, joined the company that now consists of 164 persons.

April 30

The weather: dense clouds.

The company fared well with a few exceptions, and these were later relieved. Ahmunsen, Svensen, and Madsen visited Richards. Receipts and obligations to the Emigration Fund were given to each of us, and we all agreed to obey them as given by President Franklin D. Richards. All things pertaining to the journey were put in order. The patient with the ague was somewhat better, but Rasmine Mortensen was somewhat worse and almost out of her mind.

May 1
The weather: dense clouds.

Contracts were given to all in the company that had made themselves ready to depart from Liverpool. We went on board the ship Thornton at 8 o'clock in the evening. It is a large three decker from America, commanded by Captain Collin. We joined a company of 608 English brothers and sisters who had boarded the ship before us. All bunks or beds were arranged under the first and second decks. We got our room under the second deck with good space. A cab that drove the sick to the ship was paid 2 – 6--.

May 2
The weather: beautiful.

In the morning, we went out of the harbor and anchored in the river. The company organized their belongings.

May 3
The weather: unstable.

At 12 o'clock President Franklin D. Richards and the brethren of the presidency came on board. At 1 o'clock President Richards spoke to the company. At 3 o'clock Richard and his following wished us well and bid the Lord's blessings follow us. This was answered with repeated cheers from the company who was happy and thankful for the care that was shown unto us. Brother Ahmunsen called the Danish company together and informed them that Elder Willard was appointed by President Franklin D. Richards as the president of the whole company on the complete journey to the valley. Elder Ahmunsen was called as his counselor, assistant, and president of the Scandinavian group. He gave several instructions, and he recommended that we keep cleanliness and order. Provisions were handed out for seven days: bread, meat, pork, tea, and sugar, oats, wheat flour, rice, etc. Water is given daily, as need arises. We have enough and it is good, likewise with the cooking: at a set time and place. Some tin ware was bought and distributed to those who could not pay, namely for:

	shilling	pence
Jensen	8	9
Jens Petersen	2	9
Wiklund	5	9
Sophie Pedersen	6	9
Niels Hansen	2	6

The advance expenses, 59 rigsdaler, 3___Income, 39 rigsdaler, 4___, 14___ that are balanced thus: 19 rigsdaler, 5___2___ exchanged for English money in the amount of 2 pounds, 5 shillings ___. The presidency of the whole company: President G. J. Willei, Councilors: Millen Adword, J. Ahmunsen and Moses Clough; Captain of the guard: John Cheslett; Edward Griffiths; Clerk: George May.

May 4
The weather: beautiful.

In the morning at 2 o'clock the anchor was hoisted and the ship was towed out of the river by a steamboat. At 10 o'clock the Scandinavian saints gathered for a worship service, and Elders Ahmunsen, Svensen, and Larsen spoke to encourage us to be cheerful and to keep a good spirit in love and unity; and to maintain cleanliness and order as an example for the English party. Hans Rasmussen was then ordained to be a priest and Anders Jorgensen to a teacher. The fine weather caused the company to be happy and enjoy themselves in song. Four brothers played music and there was dancing on the deck. Allen M. Finlay of the Bombay Mission, and Sister Ireland of Dundel, Scotland, were joined together in the bonds of matrimony.

May 5
The weather: beautiful, good wind.

The president encouraged the Scandinavian saints to sing on the deck. Some songs were sung to national melodies. Thereafter there was music and dancing. Prayer is held morning and evening. At sunset it began to storm

which caused some seasickness among the company. The sick girl was put in the hospital and fever patient is a little better.

May 6

The weather: rain and wind from the south.

The deck was scrubbed and washed. The saints hold prayer morning and evening. Teachings and encouragement were given to keep order and cleanliness.

May 7

The weather: storm from the northwest.

We sailed with the wind all day and came a long way westward. Many in the company were seasick. In the afternoon provisions were distributed to the company: potatoes, rice, mustard, and vinegar. Cooking was done for the sick who were unable to do it for themselves.

May 8

The weather: unstable.

This morning a large part of the company gathered on the deck. An English sister 75 years old died this morning and was buried in the ocean at 12 o'clock. The body was wrapped in canvas and covered with the American flag. It was carried out with ceremony by the brethren. President Willard gave the funeral sermon and then Captain Collin read some verses from the Bible. The body was then lowered into the ocean. At 4 o'clock provisions were distributed: potatoes, rice, oats, mustard, and vinegar. The ship has a doctor who tends to the sick with much care. Rasmine Mortensen, the 10 year old daughter of Morten Rasmussen, who was born in Jerngyde August 25, 1846, died of infection. She was buried in the same way as the English sister. Elder Ahmunsen gave the sermon.

May 9

The weather: rain and blowing, the wind westerly. Course: northwest.

The sick were better. The weather this evening was good and a large part of the company was on deck. Twenty two young brothers were chosen to be night watchmen by all of the stairways to ensure that no disruptions would take place under both decks. They are on watch every fifth night rotating with the English brothers.

May 10

The weather: unstable, wind westerly. Course: northwest.

The ocean was very rough, but not many were seasick.

May 11

The weather: clear sky, wind northwest. Course: north, northeast.

At 10 o'clock the saints assembled for worship service that began with song and prayer. Elder Ahmunsen taught us and gave instructions on order and cleanliness and four brothers were assigned to have supervision. In the afternoon Captain Collin, Willard, several of the saints, and foreign passengers visited below both decks with greetings and friendliness. The saints were happy and the children played. Thereafter a large group of the party stayed on deck and enjoyed singing and conversing.

May 12

The weather: clear sky, wind northwest.

Course: toward the southwest. The ocean is very rough: the lists for water and provisions were given.

May 13

The weather: wind northwest.

Course: toward the southwest with little wind. The day was reverently observed with worship and the whole company partook of the holy sacrament. The gospel was preached by Elders Ahmunsen, Svensen, and Larsen. President Willard spoke in the English language which Elder Ahmunsen translated. The speech was about the world's events from the creation. He rejoiced over the Danish saints whom he blessed. Several songs were sung. Talks were given. It was a fast day.

May 14
The weather: beautiful, wind west.
Course: northwest. Provisions given at 10 o'clock: potatoes and pork.
May 15
The weather: unstable.
Course: north northwest.
May 16
The weather: windy, clear sky.
Course: southwest. At 5 o'clock northwest. At 8 o'clock prayer meeting.
May 17
The weather: clear sky with wind.
Course: southwest, 5 o'clock north. Provisions were given: bread, salt, potatoes, tea, sugar, flour, green peas, rice, mustard, and vinegar. At 8 o'clock we gathered for song and counsel. The four brothers who were appointed to maintain order and cleanliness gave their report and said that the saints were generally dong well. Some were asked to exhibit more cleanliness and order, and to keep themselves off the beds as much as possible, and to go to the deck more often. There were only a few sick and no one dangerously so. Elders Ahmunsen, Svensen, and Larsen spoke a great deal on the temporal as well as the spiritual things.
May 18
The weather: unstable, wind from the west. 12 o'clock northwest.
Course: 12 o'clock west. At 12 o'clock worship service. Several brothers talked. **Elder Ahmunsen spoke about giving better care to the seven sick people. H. Rasmussen will give wine, and several will contribute what they can for the sick. Much was said about the importance of caring for one another**. At 8 o'clock there were prayer and song, and talks by Ahmunsen and Larsen. It was decided to have a fast day on Thursday.
May 19
The weather: storm, northwest.
Course: west. We rejoiced over the speed of the ship toward the west. The sick were given refreshments. At 8 o'clock Elder Ahmunsen spoke with reprimand to some families that were not orderly and clean. Orders were given to the men in charge of cleanliness to maintain strict supervision so that uncleanliness would not spread.
May 20
The weather: beautiful, wind still.
Course: west. At 7 o'clock we passed an iceberg and a damaged boat that was not worth saving. As was decided for this day we had worship, prayer and fasting. At 11 o'clock the whole company was on deck for worship service which was favored with beautiful weather and refreshed the sick. Many talks were given by President Willard and English brothers. Elder Ahmunsen gave encouragement and instruction in how to keep the Holy Ghost, and to keep the body clean, so that we would be pleasing to God and thereby enjoy health and happiness on the trip. We were highly favored of the Lord, he said. While the company was on the deck the rooms were washed, cleaned, and fumigated. At 2 o'clock an easterly wind began to air them out. The greatest part of the company went below to prepare the evening meal. At 5 o'clock gathering the families that were not clean and orderly were spoken to and warnings and admonitions given.
May 21
The weather: unstable.
Course: north; 7 o'clock west. In the night a fire broke out and burned through the deck, but the Lord was with us, and the fire did not overpower us. **A boy from an English family who had hidden himself on the ship was discovered. The lad left without permission and without a ticket. For this reason he should have been punished and made to bear a wooden jacket or a barrel, but since he was a member of the Church he was forgiven, and the two pounds Captain Collin required for his passage were donated and collected. The**

Danish saints gave three dollars. At 5 o'clock the president held counsel and instructed the brothers who had watch at night to keep close supervision over the young brothers and sisters, that no unauthorized association and coming together would take place. It was discovered that it had happened among the English and that unclean spirits were found that needed to be extinguished. To the contrary, such unrighteous behavior was not found among the Danish saints. At 10 o'clock Captain Collin ordered the whole company to go on deck for some hours while the rooms were cleansed and aired. This was a necessity that had to be done in order to prevent sicknesses that could be dangerous to the company, such as cholera and other pestilence. He would therefore be very strict with those who would not obey when they were able to do so. Yes, he would even use the whip if that became necessary. But he did not wish to do so. The leaders of the company were observant about this. On this occasion Elder Ahmunsen talked to the council that was gathered and gave strict instructions to be obedient which would lead to blessings for us. The account was read and it showed a deficit that was to be collected in the morning. At 9 o'clock the council closed with prayer. At 2 o'clock provisions were distributed: meat and pork. Hannah Bayliss from Lye in Chelkatinas gave birth to a stillborn child. At 6 o'clock in the evening an American ship bound for Liverpool made contact, and it was answered by Captain Collin.

May 22

The weather: unstable, northerly wind. 8 o'clock southwest.

Course: west. Voluntary offering came in for the water in Altona, etc. 2 pounds, 10 shillings, 5 pence. From Lars Madsen 15 dollars—4 shillings—3 pounds. To the company three "English Stars" and an English paper; 1 shilling. In the evening a heavy fog and a little wind from the northwest were present. The gong was sounded and a bell was rung every minute to prevent a collision.

May 23

The weather: storm from the northwest.

Course: southwest. Captain Collin distributed fried potatoes.

May 24

The weather: severe storm.

The storm raged all day and night. The waves went over the ship and broke the deck windows to pieces causing water to stream down into the rooms. Only a few were seasick. An English brother fell down and was severely injured.

May 25

The weather: storm from the north. A very severe sea.

Course: west. This evening the stormy sea subsided somewhat. We held worship service at 7 o'clock and thanked the Lord that He had preserved us, and that no accident had happened either to the ship or the crew. This morning we passed a ship that had lost its large mast.

May 26

The weather: beautiful, wind south.

Course: south until 4 o'clock, west. H. Rasmussen sick. At 10 o'clock provisions: bread, salt, potatoes, tea sugar, flour, green peas, mustard pepper, vinegar. In the afternoon the whole company was on the deck. Speeches were given by the English brothers and by Ahmunsen in English. Several songs were sung while the lowest decks were cleaned and washed. At 8 o'clock prayer. Brothers Ahmunsen, Svensen and Larsen spoke a great deal about the uncleanliness that was discovered among some who would be closely watched. The captain has given salve for lice to be used by those who are infested.

May 27

The weather: unstable, wind from the south.

Course: west. The company was ordered to go on deck but had to go below when it began to storm. It continued all day long. At 7 o'clock prayer meeting.

May 28

The weather: storm from the west.

Course: north; 3 o'clock southwest. At 2 o'clock provisions were distributed: meat, and pork. The sick were faring better. Hans Rasmussen was better and almost well. At 7 o'clock prayer meeting. The brethren gave instructions on cooking and cleaning.

May 29

The weather: beautiful, still, the wind southerly.

This afternoon it blew. Course: west. The wind was good and the ship made good progress. At 9 o'clock prayer. At 10 o'clock the whole company was on deck while the rooms were washed and fumigated. In the afternoon we passed a ship and three icebergs. Sophie Pedersen's son Thomas, seven years old, fell down from the top to the bottom deck. He was seriously injured, but all possible help was immediately given by the doctor who thought the boy was out of danger. This afternoon late at 6 o'clock an English brother had a preparatory marriage or wedding that will be repeated in the valley. The ship's railing was draped with the American flag, and President Willard spoke about the importance of marriage and joined the pair together according to the rules given in the Doctrine and Covenants. After the wedding there was singing and cheers for the bride and groom, for the company, and for Captain Collin who arose and expressed thanks for the honor and rejoiced over the festive occasion. He said he was an American citizen, that his forefathers had been for several generations, and that he had that right also. He said that if several couples wished to follow them on the same path, he would be happy. Repeated cheers were expressed and also extended to the doctor who is held in respect by the company. It is especially so among the English sisters who have given birth to three children. Samuel Cook from Apperlie, Gloucestershire and Sarah Haines from Twekesbury, Gloucestershire were married.

May 30

The weather: unstable; wind toward the south.

Course: west and south, a little east. Heavy fog all day and only a little wind in the afternoon. Those who are going by financial help from the emigration fund had to give assurance again that they would pay the fund back either by work or money to support other peoples' deliverance.

May 31

The weather: fog, wind to the south and the west.

Course: west and north. Heavy fog all day so that the bell had to ring every minute. At 10 o'clock provisions were distributed: salt, bread, potatoes, one egg, sugar, flour, grain, rice, vinegar, pepper, mustard and peas.

June 1

The weather: beautiful; wind to the south and west.

Course: west and north. The day was celebrated in worship. At 11 o'clock the company was on the deck. Spiritual songs were sung by the English and prayers offered up unto the Lord. President Willard gave a long speech with regard to Christ's divinity and he said that Joseph Smith was sent by God and given the keys to the holy priesthood, which he administered until his death. He gave the best testimony about this and said that sixteen years ago when he was on a mission in American the people were less enlightened about spiritual matters. He said that magnetism and disbelief abounded. The majority believed that Joseph Smith was sent by the devil. Many teachings were given on this theme. At 5 o'clock in the afternoon, the Danish saints were gathered for song and prayers. Elders Ahmunsen, Svensen, and Larsen spoke. At sunset we passed a large iceberg.

June 2

The weather: beautiful, wind toward the west and south.

Course: north toward the west. The company was ordered on deck in the beautiful weather. Sewing was done on the tents that are to be used on the trip. At 11 o'clock Sophie Pedersen's son died, the one who fell down on Thursday. Thomas Pedersen was born at Bernstof on November 19, 1848, and died June 2, 1856. At 3 o'clock he was buried in the sea with the same ceremony as those who had previously died. Elder Ahmunsen gave the

funeral sermon and Captain Collin read some verses from the New Testament. The captain stood forth on the quarter deck and spoke about the trip. He said that we were 770 English miles from New York, and if the wind blew as it had done all along, we would be in New York Saturday by noon. At 2 o'clock Willard and Adfort spoke to us and gave us instructions. At 8 o'clock prayer where Elders Ahmunsen, Svensen, and Larsen gave sermons and said that we were to have three days stay in New York before continuing the journey through American to the valley.

June 3

The weather: beautiful, wind toward the south.

Course: toward the west. The wind blew. Good sailing. At 11 o'clock the saints were on deck and they sang and preached about the journey and how it would be when they arrived in America. Experience will teach us: Prayer meeting at 8 o'clock.

June 4

The weather: beautiful, no sailing toward evening. Wind toward the east.

The company was on deck at 11 o'clock while the rooms were washed and cleansed. Prayer meeting at 7 o'clock. President Willard was present. He gave a speech in English and said that we were nearing the land that was promised to the Latter-day Saints. It is the land that Adam and his children inhabited until Noah built the ark there. After the flood it was uninhabited for several hundred years until Jared, by the power of God, was led to it with his family. See the Book of Mormon. Thereafter Joseph's lineage was led to it by the Lord and inhabited the land. The present Indians are his descendants. President Willard explained that the Lord had revealed himself to Joseph Smith and spoke to him about a religion he should embrace. This was the land the Lord had sent his angels, Peter, James, and John, to; and they had laid their hands on Joseph Smith and _____ and ordained them as apostles, prophets, and seers in connection with the holy Melchizedek Priesthood with authority to organize the Church of Jesus Christ. He spoke about the Church's progress, and that it would become the ruling Church on the earth. This speech was translated by Elder Ahmunsen, and Svensen and Larsen assisted him. In the afternoon an English sister died. She was ten years old. Provisions were distributed: pork and meat.

June 5

The weather: rain and wind from the northeast.

Course: west. **The sailing was good all day. At 5 o'clock the company was called on deck and enjoyed themselves in song. A boy whistled along.** At 8 o'clock prayer and English instruction. The English sister was buried at 12 o'clock noon with the same ceremony.

June 6

The weather: beautiful, wind toward the east.

Course: west. The sailing was good. At 11 o'clock the company was on deck. At 12 o'clock potatoes were issued. **At 8 o'clock there was a prayer meeting and a gathering where Elder Ahmunsen spoke about what President Willard had said, that he wished the sisters and brothers who were not able to pay for the whole journey could be helped to get to their new home, since it would not be good for them to remain behind in the states and they should be taken care of.**

June 7

The weather: rain and wind from the south.

Course: south, southwest. Good sailing. At 11 o'clock Elder Ahmunsen called the brethren together and said that we were now so near to America that we could see it if the air was clear. A ship would meet us and guide us into New York. This would probably happen in the night or early morning. All our things would be brought to the place where we would stay two or three days until our journey would continue by rail. Those who went at the Emigration Fund's expense had nothing to pay, whereas those who went by ox train had to pay for everything except for their lodging. He hoped that everyone would show benevolence and helpfulness to each other, and have good order in all their endeavors. An appeal was given to the brothers who had temporal means to help the brothers

and sisters home who did not. **An English sister ten years old died in the night and was buried in the ocean at 12 o'clock.** At 3 o'clock provisions were distributed: bread, tea, flour, grain, rice, peas, vinegar, mustard, salt, and pepper. At 8 o'clock prayer meeting.

June 8

The weather: unstable, wind from the south.

Course: westward. Because of the request, there came in from Ole Mikelsen 5 dollars, Ane Olsen 1 pound, Lars Madsen 3 pounds, Jens Nielsen ½ pound, Paul Jacobsen ½ pound, Johannes Svensen 1 dollar; all together 6 dollars and 5 pounds. For Jørgen Andersen's trip from New York to Chicago 25 dollars as a loan for which he gave a bond. The note or letter was given to Priest Hans Rasmussen and Teacher Anders Jørgensen. At 8 o'clock to 11:30, a prayer meeting where all of the brethren were encouraged to express their feelings about any complaint they might have, or things they wanted to talk about. Many spoke with different feelings. Elder Ahmunsen gave instructions on the importance of keeping the Holy Ghost with them. The deceptive spirit among the ancient saints had caused many calamities and he wished that such things would not be found among us to the displeasure of the Lord. This was supported by Svensen and Larsen. To date, three births, two marriages, six deaths.

June 9

The weather: unstable, wind toward the south.

Course: toward the west. At 10 o'clock prayer. At 3 o'clock the company was on the deck while there was cleaning and fumigating in the rooms. President Willei and Adfort spoke to the company about the journey and said that everyone should label their luggage with the name Iowa City, where the whole company was going by rail. From there those who are to travel by ox train will go to Saint Louis where the last immigration is awaiting them. At 8 o'clock prayer meeting.

June 10

The weather: beautiful; wind toward the south.

Course: toward the north and west. Labels for the luggage were given out with the name Iowa City on them. At 11 o'clock the company was on deck. At 6 o'clock the land of America came into sight to the delight and happiness of a deck full of people. At 8 o'clock a pilot came on board. Prayer meeting at 8 o'clock. An English child _____ years old died and was buried.

June 11

The weather: beautiful; wind toward the south, wind still.

Course: south. Many sea horses appeared on the water.[1. either of two large northern marine mammals having ivory tusks and tough hide over thick blubber;
[syn: walrus, seahorse, sea horse]

2. small fish with horse-like heads bent sharply downward and curled tails; swim in upright position;
[syn: seahorse, sea horse]] In the morning things were organized and labels were pasted on all the trunks and bags with the address: To Iowa City, and the owner's name. Thereafter, the whole company was on deck. The ship's officers and the presidency of the saints gathered themselves on the quarter-deck with President Willei gave Captain Collin a communication that he had authored. It was signed by the presidency and expressed thankfulness from him and the whole company for the humanity, good will, and care for their well being. For this, the saints prayed for heaven's blessings to be upon him and his family, and those who had taken part in the ship's guidance. This found much approval and was applauded by several cheers. Captain Collin replied with much feeling, and presented a testament to Willei wherein he expressed his feelings and gave the testimony that the saints journey had been to his satisfaction, and that it had pleased him to see the obedience the people had shown their leaders. No other company that he had led to American could compare with them. He wished President Willei, Adfort, Ahmunsen, and all those who took part in the leadership a happy journey to their destination, and he hoped all would go well with them. This was answered by the company with three cheers; and also three for the doctor, Adfort, and Ahmunsen. Everyone was happy. At 8 o'clock prayer meeting and gathering to 11 o'clock..

June 12
The weather: heavy fog all day; wind still.

At 9 o'clock prayer. At 11 o'clock provisions were given out: pork and bread. At 2 o'clock the saints were on deck to attend a wedding that was announced but was delayed until 6 o'clock. The front side of the quarter-deck was decorated with the American flag. The bride and groom with their attendants passed through the cabin up on the quarter-deck and presented themselves before the party. President Willei, Adfort, and Ahmunsen, and _____ arose on the quarter deck in front of the bridal party in order to perform the holy ordinance. President Willie talked about the significance and importance of marriage and joined the bridal pair together according to the rules of the Church. After the wedding Willei asked Captain Collin to speak. He then stood up and congratulated the bridal couple and said that it would please him if there were others who wished to be joined together in the short time that the company had left on the ship. There was general applause and three cheers expressed for Captain Collin, for the bridal pair, and for Willei. At 8 o'clock prayer meeting until 11:30.

June 13
The weather: fog the whole day. Wind toward the south; almost no wind.

Course: east and west. The bell rang all day. The company was on the deck most of the day because the air had become so warm. Captain Collin explained that the pilot had said that there was now such a heat wave in America that its likeness had hardly been known before, and that the thermometer had risen to 90 degrees. The type of scale measurement was not mentioned. The dense fog was very unpleasant since we wished to see America which was now very near. If there had been no fog we would have arrived in New York today, but we hope that it will happen in the morning. At 8 o'clock prayer meeting that lasted until 11:30. This evening a flashing light was seen every minute.

June 14
The weather: unstable.

At 9 o'clock an American steamship of a peculiar appearance with machinery on deck came into view. It took the ship Thornton in tow with its great power and gave us good speed. This brought much emotion to the surface among the company, who for the most part was on deck to view the land the Lord had promised us, and where we shall obtain the gifts and exaltation that we are promised if we continue to be faithful and obey the laws of heaven. We passed the lovely land with elevated forests and cities where many large yards and houses showed prosperity. Almost everywhere in the fields one could see groups of trees and single trees. The summer homes were in a semblance of Gothic style. The buildings were almost like those on Gamte Kongevej and Frederiksberg Alle some miles distant from the city, the large city New York. At 2 o'clock we anchored in the Hudson River next to the beautiful city. At 4 o'clock Captain Collin left the ship and bid us farewell which was answered by Adfort and the company with three cheers. The joy of the saints was great. Thereafter a steamship took us and our belongings; and at 6 o'clock we left the Thornton with feelings of thanksgiving to the Lord for the way he had preserved us and led us across the large body of water and had kept a healthy and blessed condition among us. Those who were sick are now well, and in this lovely land they are happy. A very large barge with two decks, where 770 individuals and our belongings were transferred to, transported us to Castle Garden. It is a large building that houses several thousand people. It is in theater form like a casino, though in a half circle with several thousand numbered seats and many more standing places. It has a dome and on the roof a passageway that is large. It is now used as an emigrant hotel. It has fine conveniences with running water, baths, and wash rooms for ladies and gentlemen. It has cooking apparatuses, and a cook who sells wheat bread, cheese, coffee, and milk. The cost of these items is almost twice as much as in Copenhagen. At 10 o'clock we received our beds located behind the benches and went to sleep after the day's events.

June 15
The weather: beautiful and warm.

The saints arose early and got dressed. We ate American bread and coffee, milk, and water to our hearts

content. We strolled on the balcony until we got permission to go into the city. The gate was opened at [?] ___ o'clock and a large part of the company went into the city to make purchases of necessary items. At 9 o'clock Adfort called the English brethren together and gave instructions for the next day. He said that everyone should be prepared to depart when the orders were given. He thought it would happen tomorrow afternoon. Thereafter, the Danish brethren were called together for prayer. Ahmunsen gave the same instructions as Adfort and said that the journey could happen tomorrow afternoon.

June 16

The weather: beautiful and warm.

We are all prepared for the departure and busy with packing our belongings. The departure has been postponed until tomorrow morning. The day was spent eating, drinking and visiting the city. It is so large in area that it would require several days to cover it. One can travel on trains that cruise around in the city or on large omnibuses drawn by two horses or mules which depart almost every minute and on a swarm of smaller omnibuses. Small, very neat carts, which I believe belonged to the nobility, pass one another on the streets. Steamships sail constantly in the river transporting passengers who in great numbers go to different places. They depart almost every minute. A few are so large that they can contain several thousand people. To mention the city's remarkable sights and grandeur is not my intention. I will only add that the prices for the things we buy do not compare to the prices in Denmark. One half _____ of fresh milk costs here 12 _____. Danish wheat bread is more expensive by 10 %, sugar 24 _____ for brown, 30 _____ for white, good butter 3 _____ per pound, 1 egg 3 _____, beer more expensive by 20%, coffee more expensive, meat and pork more expensive. At 10 o'clock prayer meeting.

June 17

The weather: beautiful and very warm, both day and night.

The company is now busy shipping our belongings to the railroad station where we will also be transported this afternoon. At _____ o'clock we left Castle Garden and were taken by barge to the steamship. Our belongings were weighed and transported to the ship that took us from New York at 7 o'clock down the river _____. It was surrounded by cliffs covered by trees. Yes, there were places where country houses and towns were built with beautiful gardens, and parks that gave the whole land a picturesque and lovely appearance. At 10 o'clock we arrived at the train station _____. At 11 o'clock our belongings were transferred to the cars we boarded. I must add that these cars were better constructed than both the English and Danish I have seen. One had to go through all the cars. They were fitted with seats for two persons on each side so that there was an aisle in the middle straight through the car where one could walk. It was two feet wide. The passenger entrances were at the ends but on the side so that one could board the train even if it was moving. There were seats for 86 persons, a stove in the middle of the car, and a toilet at the end.

June 18

The weather: rain showers, the air cool.

At 3 o'clock we passed _____ 20 English miles. At 4 o'clock Middleton 80 miles. At 5 o'clock Port Jarvis 90 miles. We passed many large and smaller cities. The country was sparsely settled, and there was almost no farming for the first hundred miles because it was full of rocky areas with small forests. The railroad line went along the _____ river with all its bends. For the next hundred miles farming was more developed. The country was more attractive with undulating mountains covered with large forests which gave the land a picturesque, pleasant appearance.

June 19

The weather: beautiful.

The country is more settled and has considerable lumber business. We now traveled along a mountain ridge that gave a fine view over the valleys with a variation of forests and plains that were built up with nice, small places. Farming was not particularly developed. In the small places there were large fruit gardens. Small patches of forest were broken up and the earth plowed between the stumps and planted with corn and wheat, but only a few

potatoes. It did not appear as if the ground was very fertile. There were many saw mills driven by steam or horse power. **At 9 o'clock notes of obligation were made out to the brothers and sisters who had borrowed money in order to continue the journey to St. Louis, namely:**

Jens Peder Nielsen from Paul Jacobsen		**$2.42**	
Ditto	**from Jens Nielsen**	**$2.42**	
Ditto	**from Ole Mikelsen**	**$1.91**	**$6.75**
Marie Andersen from Ole Mikelsen		**$3.09**	**$3.09**
Jørgen Andersen from [?] Svensen		**$1.00**	**$1.00**
Jørgen Andersen from Lars Madsen		**$1.00**	**$1.00**
One gift to M. Andersen		**$.50**	
Jørgen Andersen from Lars Madsen		**$14.52**	
Jørgen Andersen from Ana Olsen		**$4.83**	

The three pounds that Jørgen Andersen received from L. Madsen equals $14.52 and the one pound from A. Olsen equals $4.83.

The plains were settled with nice small places. At 10 o'clock we came to Dunkirk which lies by E _____. The city has good business and is prospering. We were treated with fine bread, butter, and coffee. At 3 o'clock we went on board the steamship that will take us to Toledo, and we departed at 5 o'clock.

June 20

The weather: beautiful.

At 9 o'clock provisions were handed out: bread and butter. The night was spent on the deck and in the rooms. At 6 o'clock we came to Cleveland and had two hours layover. At 8 o'clock departure to an island where fuel was obtained.

June 21

The weather: beautiful.

At 8 o'clock we arrived at Toledo, a nice little town that lies in an inlet 240 miles from Dunkirk. At 10 o'clock all of our things were brought to the railroad station where we stayed until our departure. At 11 o'clock provisions were distributed: bread and butter. The company visited the city where they made purchases and enjoyed refreshments. We bathed in the river. At 5 o'clock we were placed in the cars, and they were like the previous ones. At 8 o'clock we departed Toledo through a flat land that was highly cultivated.

June 22

The weather: beautiful, very warm.

We passed through a flat landscape partly covered with woods, farm land, and large stretches of pasture land. The farming here was better and nice towns gave the region a well-kept appearance. We arrived in Chicago at 6 o'clock and were staying on a flat grassy lawn until evening. Our night quarters were in a railway warehouse. Prayer meeting at 10 o'clock. The people in this city are not good. They tried to disturb us. **The below listed cash balance 17_____17_____8 equals $7.52. It was agreed that the cash balance should be distributed to the needy, mainly those who were going to St. Louis: Jorgen Andreasen, $3.00**
[?] Didrigsen $1.00
Jens Peder Nielsen $1.00
F. C. W. Gad $1.00
Marie Andersen, the rest $1.52 = $7.52

June 23

The weather: beautiful, very warm.

At 6 o'clock we left our last night's quarters and camped on the grass until we left at 2 o'clock and then moved back to our former quarters of last night to wait for further orders. **A number of English brothers and**

sisters went to St. Louis. At 11 o'clock we departed by railroad. It was noted that the 23 individuals who were scheduled to go together with some of the English sisters and brothers to St. Louis stayed behind. Because of being issued the wrong tickets, etc. Some of the Danes were left behind at the departure platform without any leadership. Brother Ahmunsen observed that the railroad director had decided that they should depart the next day on a freight train. Brother Ahmunsen was informed that it was against the railroad laws and customs. He then contended with the director that those who were left should be allowed to travel together with the English who had paid extra for better seats since there were no emigrant cars available. He said that the Danes were poor people he had helped support. This resulted in a gift of one pound from Mag Nikel and Klava to the 23 Danes. The railroad director allowed them to accompany the English who departed the same evening.

June 24

The weather: beautiful, very warm.

During the night, there was a very strong thunder storm with a heavy rain shower. At 4 o'clock we arrived at _____ where we were detained until 7 o'clock in the afternoon presumably because of an accident with the train that came before ours. A bridge over a stream collapsed with the weight of the locomotive along with two passenger cars that contained Americans. Some of them were hurt. The cars were greatly damaged and tipped over; but we came over the repaired bridge. The place where we were held up was a stop for the locomotives to take on water. There was a shop and a place where cakes and bread were baked and food prepared. Milk was obtained from the farmers nearby. At 11 o'clock we arrived at Rock Island by the Mississippi River where we spent the night in the train. At 2 o'clock in the morning Hans Rasmussen's daughter, Stine Rasmussen, died. She was born in Ammedrup August 15, 1854. She was very weak for three weeks due to teeth problems. She was buried on a hill in the state of Illinois by _____ with several brothers and sisters attending. Brother Ahmunsen gave the prayer.

June 25

The weather: unstable.

At 10 o'clock we left the train and were taken to a warehouse where we stayed all day and night. Many people gathered outside and tried to disturb us. In the evening the fear was so great that the brethren armed themselves with loaded guns and swords. But it turned out to be a false alarm, and the police dispersed the people. At 9 o'clock prayer meeting. At 11 o'clock everything was quiet and our enemies were gone.

June 26

Weather: unstable.

In the morning the people prepared themselves to depart and left at 7 o'clock by steamship over the Mississippi River to _____ that lies on the other side of the river. Our stay in Rock Island was brought about by a severe storm that had raged and driven the steamship against the bridge that caught fire and burned part of it. This bridge contains the railroad line that we were to travel on that same evening to Iowa, 56 miles from the river. We arrived at 10 o'clock and had to lie in wait in the woods until we could depart for the camp ground three miles from the city. Because of thunder and rain we had to seek shelter in a building by the railroad where we spent the night while the thunderstorm raged and poured down streams of water. Bought a cap for one dollar. Bread was distributed. The 56 English miles to this area has the most fertile and cultivated land, surrounded with nice cities and country houses. Iowa is a nice little town from where the railroad tracks will be extended through the Salt Lake flats to California. It has been sanctioned by the government. At 9 o'clock prayer meeting.

June 27

The weather: unstable, alternating with thunder and heavy rain showers.

Bread was distributed. At 4 o'clock we went to the camp where 900 brothers and sisters were staying. The sick and the children were transported along with the hand baggage. Most of our trunks and sacks were transported. Provisions were distributed per person as follows: 1 pound wheat flour, 2 1/2 ounces pork, 2 ounces sugar, 2 ounces dried apples, 1/4 pound coffee, 1/2 ounce tea, and soda and soap. We settled in camp, cooked and

fried our food. **Christiansen** visited us. Brother Spencer is president of the whole company.
June 28
The weather: unstable, thunder with storm and rain.

Provisions were distributed for two days: flour, sugar, coffee, tea, dried apples and smoked pork. The sisters began to sew tents and some were set up. **Brother Van Cott came here with a large herd of cattle, they say 400, and they are destined to go on the journey with us.**
June 29
The weather: beautiful.

Morning and afternoon we gather for worship. Many strangers were present and there was good order. Prayer meeting at 8 o'clock. **Van Cott, Bishop Taylor and several others spoke and instructed us, and Christiansen spoke about the experiences he had gathered.**
June 30
The weather: beautiful.

At 10 o'clock provisions were distributed: flour, sugar, dried apples, coffee and tea, salt and smoked pork for two days. It was announced to the handcart company that no person would be able to bring more than 17 pounds per person on the carts. The remaining goods could be transported to the valley for _____ dollars per 100 pounds by some of the inhabitants. Some people sold their clothes in Iowa. I gave my things to the brethren in St. Louis who are unable to come home. Sold flour to Line Larsen for 35 cents. At 8 o'clock prayer meeting. **Speeches by Ahmunsen, Christiansen, and Larsen were given against grumbling, dissatisfaction and complaining which had crept in among some of the company's members who had not yet learned their duties and obedience to God's law and his servants.** The 30th of June, Christian Jensen's son Jens Christian Jensen died. He was born the 16th of August 1854 in Pedersborg Parish, Hagerup Village, Sorø, Sjelland, Denmark.
July 1
The weather: unstable, thunder and rain.

The sisters and brothers who can sew are busy sewing tents and thinking about what they are going to do with all the things they can't bring along. Some go to town and sell, and purchasers come into the camp. Prayer meeting at 8 o'clock.
July 2
The weather: unstable, loud thunder with much rain.

Christiansen left us this afternoon and went on his mission to St. Louis. We are happy for him and wished the Lord's blessings upon him. Provisions were distributed for two days: flour, sugar, coffee, tea, dried apples, salt, and smoked pork. Tents were sown. Prayer meeting at 8 o'clock.
July 3
The weather: unstable, thunder and much rain.

In the morning our beloved Brother Van Cott left us and traveled to St. Louis to purchase about 700 male and female cattle to drive to the valley. He bid us a hearty farewell and wished us a good trip and he hoped to see us again in Council Bluffs. He bade me greet the saints, the Danes and the Scandinavians, whom he loved. In the afternoon tents were set up, and each tent should accommodate twenty persons. At 9 o'clock prayer and song were held in the tents.
July 4
The weather: beautiful.

In the morning we bathed in a little river or large stream which crosses through meadow and woods. Here the sisters have a good opportunity to wash and clean. The freedom that one has here is not known in Denmark. Several hundred tønder of land, exceptionally good land, is just like our own property, where our oxen and mules graze. In the woods we obtain the needed firewood to burn as it is very dry. The company had shooting practice and assemblies in order to celebrate the day that the North American people won

their freedom and a constitution.

July 5

The weather: beautiful; very warm.

At 8 o'clock some of the brethren went to Iowa with transport handcarts loaded with bedding and other items to sell. Some went through the city and sold a few items for a low price. Brother Ahmunsen, who was present, had discovered an auction place and showed the brethren where it was and helped with the sale there. The bedding was sold for 27 to 55 cents per pound. Linen and clothing did not sell well. We have much to do to be able to dispose of our surplus items in order to recover what was paid for the extra weight to this place. I have to pay $8 for 105 pounds of weight. The freight from here to the valley is so high that it has to be materials of good quality in order to pay for itself. At 6 o'clock Sister Hageman gave birth to a son, who was given the name Lars Larsen. She is doing well.

July 6

The weather: beautiful.

In the morning and afternoon we gathered for worship service. Hannah Andersen who could no longer pay for her journey bid Brother Ahmunsen ask Lars Madsen and Hans Rasmussen to loan her the needed money. She then received from Lars Madsen 20 dollars and from Hans Rasmussen 20 dollars for which she signed a bond or note. At the gathering Brother Ahmunsen gave teachings and instructions.

July 7

The weather: beautiful, and very warm.

At 9 o'clock in the **morning some of the brethren went to Iowa pulling three handcarts loaded with bedding and clothing that was sold for 71 dollars. Some of the brethren went together and purchased a pair of oxen for 115 dollars and they intend to buy a wagon to transport their surplus goods to the valley**. The health of the company is good. To the contrary, it is difficult to preserve a good spirit when many false teachings creep in. This causes the authorities to have much to combat and watch over.

July 8

The weather: unstable, thunder and much rain.

Provisions were distributed and many orders were given to the company, among which were orderliness and industry. In the evening part of an English company arrived here during a rain and thunderstorm. The group numbers 800, who for the most part will travel with a handcart company. [Martin company] They were cheerful and happy to arrive, and they were placed among all the tents and were treated to coffee and bread.

July 9

The weather: beautiful; in the afternoon some rain.

Orders were given to pack up with our beloved Brother Spencer's return. He has prepared the way for us. We are happy that the time is near for the journey to continue. **We will gather experiences that will follow us into eternity**. The Lord will bless and preserve the faithful who will do his will.

July 10

The weather: unstable; thunder and much rain in the night.

The day was devoted to packing etc., and orders were given to depart tomorrow morning. One handcart with a cover is given to each tent where there are children who need to ride. **The brethren who had gone together to purchase oxen also purchased a wagon for $60. They received a loan of $50 from Lars Madsen and agreed to pay him back when they arrive in Salt Lake City. An obligation was signed with oxen and wagon as collateral.**

July 11

The weather: unstable.

Preparations were made for our departure. **The handcarts that were delivered to us are well constructed and light. They have very strong wooden wheels, four feet high. The ring or rim around them are made up**

of two steam bent fellies fastened with iron tires. They have wooden axles that hold two beams eight feet long with five matching cross beams. The carts are four feet wide and weigh 60 pounds. They provide about sixteen square feet for five people's belongings that weigh about 85 pounds. Prayer at 9 o'clock.

July 12

The weather: beautiful.

The shareholders of the oxen and wagon weighed their belongings, 1000 pounds, and loaded them. Some of the brethren went into town to sell some of their belongings. At 10 o'clock provisions were distributed for two days: flour, pork, dried apples, sugar, coffee, tea, salt, and soda. Thereafter the things we were allowed to take with us were weighed and put on the handcarts.

July 13

The weather: beautiful.

We gathered in the afternoon for worship service and partook of the Holy Sacrament. Many strangers were present, but there was very good order in the camp, and many instructions were given.

July 14

The weather: beautiful.

July 15

The weather: beautiful; much heat.

Provisions were given for one day, and the handcart company prepared itself for departure. The Danish part of the handcart company numbers 93 people with 4 of them being sick. **They are divided into 5 tents; number 1 has 17 persons, and numbers 2, 3, 4, and 5 have 19 persons each.** [93 people] Each tent has 4 handcarts. One of them is a covered handcart for children. **Lars Madsen loaned me $10 which Brother Ahmunsen and I plan to use in obtaining necessities for the company. I signed an obligation to repay him when we reach our home in the valley.** I received 65 cents from the brethren to add to the treasury.

Tent no. 1. 4 brothers, 12 sisters, 1 child. [= 17 What? No families? Just brothers and sisters and 1 child?]

Tent no. 2. 4 families, 5 brothers, 4 sisters, 10 children. [= 19]

Tent no. 3. 4 families, 5 brothers, 4 sisters, 10 children. [= 19]

Tent no. 4. 4 families, 6 brothers, 7 sisters, 6 children. [= 19]

Tent no. 5. 4 families, 4 brothers, 4 sisters, 11 children. [= 19]

July 16

The weather: beautiful.

At 7 o'clock part of the English and Danish divisions of the company that will travel together across the plains moved. **It consists of 5 sections with 23 tents, and four handcarts with 19 to 20 persons per tent. Each division has a wagon with 4 oxen to transport provisions, tents, and the sick. The group moved a few hundred yards in the order the camp will be traveling. Each tent was assigned a captain and the people under him.** Provisions were given out for one day.

July 17

The weather: beautiful.

Three Indians visited the camp and showed their skill in shooting with a bow. At 7 o'clock the 5 divisions left the camp and marched for two hours. At 9 o'clock we **camped on the plain in a circle with 22 tents and 92 handcarts. One tent had to remain in the camp with 3 sick people who will come later. Our provisions came along with the tents.** The oxen found abundant grazing—hay grass. The area is beautiful and fertile but sparsely developed. At 10 o'clock the signal was given for prayer and song in the tents. Guards were posted.

July 18

The weather: unstable, later on in the day very hot.

At 4 o'clock President Willei blew the horn for everyone to get up and put things in order. At 8 o'clock

provisions were distributed: flour for one day, sugar, pork, rice, soap, salt, and dried apples. After the prayer meeting the horn sounded to move out. **The company of 500 had 5 wagons with provisions and tents. For the sick there was a wagon drawn by 4 mules, and for the others 6 oxen. Brothers Willard and Ahmunsen drove the last two wagons and had much difficulty in driving their oxen. The company was cheerful and happy.** One sick sister was brought along on a covered handcart. We traveled 10 to 12 miles. **Those with the handcarts were anxious and tried to pass one another.** At 3 o'clock we camped by a wood. At 5 o'clock Willei and Ahmunsen arrived with their wagons **after much exertion and danger** in driving over the bad bridges and the roads filled with holes with are found here. Rocks are seldom found. The roads receive no improvement, and one drives where best he can, through fertile plains and ranges. The country is wave-like with tree clad hills and sparsely developed, yet much of the earth is under cultivation. It produces good crops of wheat and corn. It is almost the only grain cultivated here. At 8 o'clock the horn sounded for prayer and song.

July 19

The weather: beautiful.

At 4 o'clock the horn was blown to get up. At 6 o'clock prayer and song. At 9 o'clock the company went on its way. At 7 o'clock camp was set up in the forest 20 miles from Iowa City by a stream, a convenient place to bathe and wash. The brethren Willei, Adfort, and Ahmunsen drove the oxen here. Prayer meeting at 9 o'clock.

July 20

The weather: beautiful.

The company bathed and washed. An assembly was held in the afternoon, and many strangers visited the camp. The saints were happy. Provisions were distributed: flour for one day, coffee, tea, etc. for three days. Lars Julius Larsen born July 5, 1856 was blessed by Elder Ahmunsen.

July 21

The weather: beautiful; very hot.

At 4 o'clock President Willei blew the horn for us to get up. At 7 o'clock prayer and departure. At 11 o'clock we camped in a wood by a brook where we had a good opportunity to bathe and wash. **In the evening some strangers came and sought to disturb us and by threats tried to drive us away.** President Willei, who knew the people here in Illinois, made preparations and called upon the brethren to arm themselves for battle; but our enemies found it unadvisable and did not appear.

July 22

The weather: beautiful.

At 4 o'clock President Willei blew the horn to get us up. At 7 o'clock prayer and thereafter departure. At 1 o'clock we camped by a stream in a wooded area where there was good opportunity to bathe and wash. At 6 o'clock provisions: flour for one day. Prayer at 8 o'clock.

July 23

The weather: unstable, no rain, very hot.

At 4 o'clock the horn was sounded to get up. At 7 o'clock prayer and thereafter departure. We rested a few hours on a hill until 6 o'clock and then traveled to a wooded area where a small stream was flowing. We found water and ample grass for the oxen. We arrived here at 8 o'clock. When the tents were set up provisions were distributed: flour for one day, sugar, coffee, dried apples, tea, pork, and salt. Prayer at 11 o'clock. The company traveled 14 miles. It was difficult to keep the train together in the assigned order because many tried to pass one another. **Brother Ahmunsen must still drive the oxen because no one else can yet be trusted to do it. The 5 sick and the 2 lame were driven, 1 on handcart and the others in the wagon**.

July 24

The weather: beautiful; much heat.

At 4 o'clock the horn blew to awaken us and at 9 o'clock we had prayer. Thereafter our departure. **Here in this area people are more friendly toward us. They give us milk,** and we have bought wheat flour for 2 cents

per pound, about 4 _____ in Danish money. At 11 o'clock we camped in the woods by a stream where there was opportunity to bathe and wash. About 2 miles from the former place we passed a brick factory. Here they use only bricks for chimneys. Although this area is very fruitful, it is sparsely populated. There are large locust trees. The grapes and the plums here are used as a dessert. In most places the wheat is bound and cut. Here is a beautiful people, and their homes are neat and clean. There are powerful and strong blooded horses and a _____ race. The cows and oxen are larger and more beautiful than in Holstein; almost all red. Prayer at 8 o'clock. **Brother Willei spoke much against the wickedness that was discovered among the English people who would be punished according to the law for milking strangers' cows and killing their pigs.** An English sister died and was buried. Ole Madsen paid 15 cents, Christensen paid 10 cents, Jens Nielsen paid 10 cents.

July 25

The weather: beautiful.

At 4 o'clock the horn sounded to get up, and at 6 o'clock prayer. Thereafter departure. Provisions of flour for one day. We traveled 16 miles. At 6 o'clock we set up camp on the plain by a stream. Prayer at 8 o'clock.

July 26

The weather: unstable, with rain and thunder.

At 4 o'clock the horn sounded to get up. At 7 o'clock prayer and then departure. The rain had soaked the ground so that it was difficult to pull the handcarts. We traveled over 8 miles and camped by wood and brook. Provisions: flour for one day, sugar, coffee, pork, etc. for three days.

July 27

The weather: unstable.

At 4 o'clock the horn sounded to get us up. At 7 o'clock prayer and thereafter departure. We traveled for two hours and came to a wooded area. A branch of the Mississippi winds through it. Here was a good opportunity to bathe and wash. The area was very hilly with small wooded spaces and much grass. In the afternoon we gathered for worship. At 8 o'clock prayer meeting. Some strangers visited the camp.

July 28

The weather: unstable.

At 5 o'clock the horn was again blown to get up. At 7 o'clock prayer and departure. We traveled through uneven country with many steep hills where we needed all of our strength to be able to get through. The land is fertile with a large wooded area, sparsely populated. Toward evening we passed through Newton City, a new town, that in the last few years has come into existence. Some distance away we camped by wood and stream. Prayer at 8 o'clock.

July 29

The weather: unstable.

At 4 o'clock the horn was blown to get up. At 7 o'clock prayer and departure. **The Danish part of the company was ordered to take the lead. I was therefore the first person over the very much dilapidated bridges. Things were difficult that day. Ahmunsen with his wagon was in danger. The bridges had to be repaired etc., yet everything progressed, and all was well after the day's hardships.** At 3 o'clock we arrived happy and well at the camping ground. We found plentiful water and grass for ourselves and the animals by a little river and wooded area. Provisions were distributed: flour for one day, sugar, tea, coffee, salt, dried apples, and pork for three days. The provisions were somewhat less. Prayer at 7 o'clock. **Willei warned with much seriousness against the disorder that was present.**

July 30

The weather: unstable.

At 4 o'clock the horn was blown. At 7 o'clock prayer and then departure. We traveled 18 miles. At 7 o'clock we camped close to ____ City. Our oxen were tied to the wagons during the night. Around noon we traveled through _____ City, which also just recently has come into existence. The land is fruitful and there are

many large farms here. At 8 o'clock prayer.
July 31
The weather: beautiful, very hot.

At 3:30 the horn was sounded to get up. At 5 o'clock prayer, and thereafter departure. During the morning we passed through _____ City, a larger city with many nice homes. The inhabitants were also a nice people. Through the city flows the _____ River by which we camped outside of the city. Here we found water and plentiful grazing for the cattle, and here purchases of the necessities were done. At 5 o'clock we camped by a stream and small wood with good grazing. At 8 o'clock prayer. **Some strangers appeared and tried to disturb us so Willei gave orders that the brethren should be dressed and prepared to come when called.** The strangers did little more than make some noises.
August 1
The weather: beautiful.

At 4 o'clock the horn was sounded. At 7 o'clock prayer and thereafter departure. At noon we passed through _____ City. At 5 o'clock we camped by a stream with a wooded area. At 8 o'clock prayer.
August 2
The weather: beautiful.

At 5 o'clock a call to get up. At 7 o'clock prayer and then departure. We traveled far, and there was much unrest in the company. The bad feelings showed themselves in words as well as deeds. The unrest and disorder resulted because we had to wade across two rivers and had several hills that were difficult to climb. At 6 o'clock we camped by a river in the woods near a mill. Here we were visited by many strangers. At 8 o'clock prayer.
August 3
The weather: beautiful.

At 5 o'clock called up. At 8 o'clock prayer and then departure. In the late morning we passed a wave-like terrain and observed a unique sight. A beam of fire like a large rocket shot through the air and left a wide stripe with wide dots that developed into small clouds that followed the flow of air in the same direction as the beam of fire from west to east. A few minutes later it was followed by a loud thunderbolt in otherwise completely clear air. At noon we camped on a plain by a river and wooded area. We had there a good opportunity to bathe and wash. A spring gave us the best drinking water.
August 4
The weather: beautiful.

We were called up at 4 o'clock. At 7 o'clock prayer and departure. The region was very hilly and only sparsely settled. We camped by a wooded area and stream. At 8 o'clock prayer.
August 5
The weather: beautiful.

At 4 o'clock a call to get up. At 7 o'clock we departed. We camped on a plain where water and good grazing were found. Prayer at 8 o'clock.
August 6
The weather: unstable; thunder and rain in the night.

At 4 o'clock a call to get up. At 7 o'clock prayer. Thereafter departure. **Because of the rain the road was not good. Since we find no gravel here we drive over black humus that in the rainy weather is very slippery. The nights have for several days been very cold, and that has caused colds so that we now have 12 people sick. Sister Jacobsen gave birth. A four month old sister and a boy were very sick.**
August 7
The weather: beautiful; the night very cold.

At 4 o'clock a call to get up. At 7 o'clock prayer, and thereafter departure. During the noon hour we traveled through _____ City by a little river where there were merchants who supplied us with necessities. At 5

o'clock we camped on a plain by a stream and good pasture. Loaned Haugmand, Peder Larsen 10 cents, Paul Jacobsen borrowed 10 cents.

August 8

The weather: beautiful.

At 4 o'clock a call to get up. At 7 o'clock prayer. After that departure. At 4 o'clock we camped by a brook. At 8 o'clock prayer.

August 9

The weather: thunder and rain.

At 4 o'clock we were called up. At 7 o'clock prayer. Thereafter departure. At 3 o'clock we camped on a plain by a stream. The area we passed was very wave-like with steep hills and sparse population. Prayer at 8 o'clock.

August 10

The weather: beautiful.

The day was spent washing, baking, and cooking, and in worship until 4 o'clock. The company then left the campsite and traveled toward the west over mountains and valley until 11 o'clock. We camped by a stream close to Council Bluffs, on a plain by the Missouri River. At 8 o'clock prayer meeting.

August 11

The weather: beautiful.

At 4 o'clock called up. At 7 o'clock prayer, then departure. In the late morning we traveled through Council Bluffs, a town that several years ago came into being and seems to make good progress. It appears to be so because of the fine location. In the afternoon we came to the Missouri River and were then transported across it by steamboat to Florence, a town that has arisen this summer. The place is notable because it ten years ago was known as Winter Quarters for the Mormons who were driven from Missouri. They lived here until they were again expelled and had to look toward the west where they found rest in the mountain valley where they established a city. We have here a supply house for the storage of provisions and other necessities for the emigration. We are going to stay here for several days so we can rest and prepare ourselves for the journey through the desert. **Towards evening we camped by the river and the woods and found here good grazing for the cattle and for several hundred cows and oxen Brother Van Cott had purchased and brought here to supply the emigration**. 520 cows and heifers and 123 calves. 3000 Mormons built a city they called Winter Quarters and which they left the next spring and lost 300 people who died there.

August 12

The weather: beautiful.

The saints were happy and occupied with washing and repairing things. The daily provisions are now distributed regularly. A cow was slaughtered and distributed. Fresh meat soup was eaten. We bathed and visited the beautiful surroundings and the Mormon ruins. In the evening five brothers and sisters were baptized. (The sick were washed.) namely Peder Jacobsen, Ane K. Jacobsen, Petrea Madsen, Marie Andersen and Ellen Nielsen. They were baptized by Wicklund. At 8 o'clock prayer.

August 13

The weather: beautiful.

At 7 o'clock prayer. **Brother Van Cott came back and had found the lost cows. We were happy to see him and in particular because he told me that he had thought about me a great deal and requested that I should drive his wagon which after I received with thanksgiving**. Documents were handed out and signed by the company and given to Daniel Spencer as insurance for provisions etc. At 8 o'clock prayer. Ane Andersen renewed her covenants and was baptized by Jens Nielsen.

August 14

The weather: beautiful.

At 7 o'clock prayer. Provisions are given daily. The wagons were loaded with provisions for the trip. All the wagons and handcarts are looked after and repaired and the tents are inspected and repaired. Anxiousness is displayed by the whole group who will continue on with the handcart company, over what weapons and ammunition they should take with them. **Some of the English brothers and sisters are staying back here, and two from the Danish part of the company, namely Niels Hansen and his wife Anne. C. Hansen. They have found a place in Council Bluffs where many apostate Mormons are staying and who seek to draw others with them.** They say that high earnings are given. Rasmussen from Regnegade and his wife live here. (She has been excommunicated.) He visited us and said that he earns 2 dollars, room and board per day. Ane K. Mortensen renewed her covenant and was baptized by Wicklund.

August 15

The weather: beautiful.

Prayer at 7 o'clock. A cow was slaughtered and distributed. **Niels Hansen came back to get his things. He owes Elder Ahmunsen 10 spesier that he can't pay. After being admonished to pay he gave a pocket watch valued at 4 spesier and a note for a share in two oxen and a wagon in the amount of 6 spesier, also the same to Ole Madsen for 1 dollar.** [Interpreted that Niels Hansen owed Ole Madsen for wagon share?] Extra meat for soup was given to the sick, and added were herbs for 50 cents which was taken from the possessions of Maren Hansen. Prayer at 8 o'clock. At 7 o'clock this morning Maren Hansen, 52 years old, died and was buried the next day. Her possessions were recorded and kept safe.

August 16

The weather: beautiful.

Prayer at 7 o'clock. Maren Hansen's possessions were distributed among the poor. Measurements of the feet of those who needed shoes were taken, and those who had shoes that were too small were given to the ones who could fit them. The others will instead get new shoes. The repaired handcarts were delivered. The Danish company received 15 open and 4 covered handcarts. In the afternoon two English companies left the camp for the next camp 6 miles away. The four English companies are considerably reduced. _____ individuals stayed behind in Florence, and thus the whole company now number _____ individuals, _____ English and _____ Danish. _____ American families who have stayed here for a while with their oxen and wagons would like to travel through the desert with us. The oxen were chosen, 8 to a wagon, and 20 milk cows with their calves were chosen. They shall give us milk and meat on the journey. At 8 o'clock prayer. At 7 o'clock the dead Maren Hansen was driven out to the Mormon graveyard where 10 years ago 300 Mormons were buried. She was accompanied by 8 brethren. Willei gave the prayer before the body was lowered into the grave, and then the ceremony ended.

August 17 The weather: unstable. At 8 o'clock prayer, and at 11 o'clock we departed the campground at Florence and traveled 6 miles west. We camped by a stream where we found good water and good grazing for the cattle. We united with the two companies who had left yesterday before us. We are now in the desert, or wilderness, a wave-life country without woods, only a few trees. The soil is of exceptional quality and produces the best grass varieties. It is rich in humus, clay, and lime and is good for raising wheat. At 8 o'clock prayer meeting. Brother Ahmunsen spoke and gave instructions and warning to those who were slovenly in their work. Ole Madsen borrowed 20 cents for hooks and lines.

August 18

The weather: unstable.

At 4 o'clock we were called up. At 8 o'clock prayer. Several orders were given about arrangement of our belongings. New footwear was distributed to the needy. In the afternoon we traveled 6 miles and camped by a stream. At 8 o'clock prayer meeting. Sister Petrea Caroline Jensen born in Frederikstad, Norway August 12, 1831, who has stayed in America in _____ is now accompanying the Danish group to the valley.

August 19
The weather: beautiful.

At 4 o'clock we were called up. At 7 o'clock prayer, and thereafter departure. At 11 o'clock we arrived at the ferrying place by the Elk Horn River _____. A merchant had settled himself down here and had supplied the travelers with merchandise they could use. The company supplied themselves with the needed necessities. In the afternoon we were taken across on the ferry and traveled 1 mile from the river. We camped by a stream where we found good water and good grazing.

August 20
The weather: beautiful.

At 4 o'clock Brother Willei blew the horn for us to get up. At 7 o'clock prayer and then departure. We now traveled over the plains, a flat land like Amager, several miles wide where the Platte River runs through it. Toward the south and the north the terrain was wave-like in form. At 12 o'clock lunch for 2 hours. At 7 o'clock we camped by the Platte River. We met a party with wagons and horses and some carrying packs. Part of the party was on horseback and some in nice wagons. They said that they had come from California and had passed Deseret and Salt Lake.

August 21
The weather: beautiful.

At 5 o'clock the horn sounded to get up. At 7 o'clock prayer and then departure. At 12 o'clock lunch for 2 hours. At 8 o'clock we camped in the desert without water and firewood. At 9 o'clock prayer.

August 22
The weather: beautiful.

At 4 o'clock the horn blew. At 5 o'clock departure. At 8 o'clock breakfast by the river. At 1 o'clock lunch. We camped by the river at 7 o'clock after we had traveled 18 miles. At 9 o'clock prayer.

August 23
The weather: beautiful.

At 4 o'clock the horn sounded to get up. At 6 o'clock prayer and then departure. At the noon hour we came to the ferry place and began the crossing which took all afternoon. In the meantime a cow and a calf were butchered and distributed at one pound per person. We camped by a river and a wooded area with good grazing. At 8 o'clock prayer.

August 24
The weather: beautiful.

At 4 o'clock the horn sounded to get up. At 7 o'clock prayer and thereafter departure. We traveled 23 miles and had 4 hours rest during breakfast and lunch. At 7 o'clock we camped by the river. At 8 o'clock prayer.

August 25
The weather: unstable with rain and wind.

At 4 o'clock the horn was blown. At 7 o'clock we had prayer and then departure. We traveled 18 miles and came over a mountain and a sandy terrain which made us very late. At 7 o'clock we camped by the river. The cow whose calf was taken from her had run away and taken two others with her. One was found, but two were lost.

August 26
The weather: beautiful

At 4 o'clock the horn blew to get up. At 7 o'clock prayer and thereafter departure. We traveled 12 miles and camped at 2 o'clock by the river. We found tracks of wolves and other animals along the way. Buffalo were here in the area, and we are waiting and looking forward to enjoying buffalo steak soon. At 8 o'clock prayer. At 9 o'clock council meeting. By unanimous vote it was accepted that the presidents in turn would have supervision along with the guards, each half a night at a time, and that those who had weapons should be prepared to assemble themselves when the signal was given on the horn in the event the Indians would seek to rob us of something.

August 27 The weather: beautiful. At 4 o'clock the horn blew to get up. At 6 o'clock prayer and then departure. Later we stopped at a water park or watering hole. At 11:30 we rested on the heath and had lunch there. We traveled until 6 o'clock through the sandy desert land for 18 miles with great difficulty. In the late morning we met 3 wanderers who said that in two days we would see a big herd of buffalo etc. We camped here. These three men were deserters from a fort where the government has soldiers in order to have supervision over the Indians that might attack the travelers who come this way to and from California and the Utah territory. At 8 o'clock prayer.

August 28 The weather: beautiful, and in the night thunder and rain. At 4 o'clock the horn sounded to get up. At 6 o'clock prayer. Thereafter departure. At 11 o'clock to 1 o'clock lunch by a stream _____. We then traveled over the plains to the stream _____ where we arrived at 7 o'clock and set up camp. Here we saw the first buffalo but didn't have time to hunt them because we sought to reach the campground before nightfall. At 9 o'clock prayer.

August 29 The weather: unstable. Prayer at 7 o'clock. Several of the brethren were sent out in search of an old Englishman who had failed to appear and had to spend the night in the open while it was raining and thundering. They found him and he was able to ride back. The carts that needed repairs were mended and put into shape in the morning. At 12 o'clock we left the camp and traveled towards the Indian camp. We met many who came toward us with friendliness and followed us to the camp, 1 mile from the Indian camp, where we stayed overnight. We camped at 3 o'clock and the Brothers Willei, Adfort, Savage, and Ahmunsen presented the Omaha tribe's chief with presents and paid their respects. They received dried buffalo meat from him. Ahmunsen gave him an old dilapidated night cap. The chief gave him a tobacco pipe to smoke and was very friendly towards the brethren. The tribe in the camp number 800 individuals. They told the brethren that an Indian tribe, the Cheyenne, had killed 2 men and 1 child on Monday the 25th of August from Secretary Babbit's company of 4 loaded wagons headed for Utah. These were scattered with the goods and the oxen driven away. Secretary Babbit drove into the camp where he stayed overnight. At 8 o'clock prayer. Secretary Babbit, who had driven from Florence in 4 days, said that the wagon company had arrived in Florence in _____ and that all seemed well. Hansen had detained them in Council Bluffs and had engaged an attorney or confidential clerk with a demand to get his things back.

August 30 The weather: At 4 o'clock a call to get up. At 7 o'clock prayer and then departure. Early in the morning many Indians appeared in the camp to trade with us. We received dried buffalo meat and shoes (moccasins) in exchange for handkerchiefs and various clothing. I received a pair of moccasins for handkerchiefs. About 2 miles from camp, we traveled past the place where Secretary Babbitt's 4 wagons were plundered and 2 _____ were killed by the Indians. They were angry because, as we were informed, the Indians had taken away some mules and were therefore pursued by the military the United States government had stationed in Losfort in order to keep them under observation and to keep peace along the route. The military overtook them and shot 16 Indians. They became furious and sought to revenge them. Babbit who is Secretary in Utah and is paid by the states _____. He is not a Mormon. Neither are his people who drove the wagons. The dead were buried. Some of their things were scattered about the place and were bloody. The brethren assumed that they were murdered in their beds. Except for a few items everything else was burned. During the noon hour there was a hunt that two brothers, Savage and _____ organized and carried out on horseback. We thought they were hunting buffalo, but was 2 of Babbit's oxen held together with a yoke. At 5 o'clock we camped by a stream.

August 31 The weather: beautiful. The horn was blown at 4 o'clock. At 7 o'clock prayer, and then departure. During the morning hours we met 4 gold diggers from California who told us that they had passed by Utah territory and that everything was well there etc. They were riding and had 4 race horses that carried some of their things. Thereafter Babbit came driving 4 mules in full character and went to the fort. Willei shot a large rattlesnake. We traveled 20 miles and camped at 5 o'clock by the Platte River where we bathed and washed and

had good water and grazing for the oxen. At 8 o'clock prayer.

September 1 The weather: beautiful. At 4 o'clock the horn sounded. At 6 o'clock prayer. Departure ½ hour thereafter. We saw several buffalo; one was shot some miles away and brought to the camp the same evening. A cow was slaughtered. We camped by a stream at 5 o'clock. Prayer at 8 o'clock.

September 2 The weather: beautiful. At 4 o'clock up. At 8 o'clock prayer. At 9 o'clock departure. The meat was distributed: 3/4 pound cow and 1 1/2 pound of buffalo per person. Likewise provisions were distributed: sugar, coffee, tea, salt, soap, rice, etc. for 6 days. 1 pound fine flour per person per day. Lunch time from 1 to 3 o'clock. In the afternoon we only traveled 2 miles because the crossing over the stream was bad. The delay caused us to set up camp by the same stream an hour later because we couldn't reach the next camping place that day. Some dissatisfaction and unwillingness among the brethren regarding the distribution of items among the handcarts made Brother Ahmunsen decide that all the many items and materials should be weighed and 6 person's things placed in each handcart. Here we found fuel in abundance and good water and grazing.

September 3 The weather: beautiful. Up at 4 o'clock. Prayer at 7 o'clock. At 8 o'clock departure. We traveled several miles over hill and dale and saw buffalo by the thousands. During the noon hour Ole Madsen shot a large buffalo and an English man another, and both were distributed, about 2 pounds per person. From 12 to 3 o'clock lunch. At 6 o'clock we camped by a little stream. At 8 o'clock prayer. An old English sister was buried before departure.

September 4 The weather: unstable, in the night heavy thunderstorm and rain. Up at 4 o'clock. At 7 o'clock prayer. Some oxen had disappeared during the night, and the brethren were sent out to find them. Shortly thereafter Secretary Babbit came along and said that he this day, 20 miles from here, had passed Brother Wolley's company with Smoot wagons from Kansas. Some Danish people were among them. Council meeting and prayer at 8 o'clock. During the night a storm raged with strong hurricane like winds that threw some of the tents down and brought much disturbance.

September 5 The weather: unstable with cold air. At 7 o'clock prayer. **Then a council was held and it was determined that Elder Christensen as captain of some of the Danish brethren was to be sent out to find the 22 oxen who had disappeared. They were not found. In the evening the brethren came back. Bishop Smoot and Rockwell visited us and told us that their company was camped on the other side of the Platte River, and they were willing to carry some of our flour**. At the council in the evening, it was decided that the train should move tomorrow morning in two divisions. The first was to come back in order to get the wagons and give help to the second train. Prayer at 8 o'clock.

September 6 The weather: unstable. At 5 o'clock a call to get up. At 8 o'clock prayer. Elders Ahmunsen and Christensen preached about repentance from the wickedness that prevailed here, or the Lord's punishment which now had begun would bring death and destruction on us. At 10 o'clock in the morning the first division, 3 sections and 7 wagons, moved 4 miles to the side of the river. In the afternoon, 2 sections with 5 wagons moved. We camped at 5 o'clock. Prayer at 9 o'clock.

September 7 The weather: beautiful. At 5 o'clock a call to get up. At 8 o'clock prayer. **Before prayer a council was held and it was decided that the handcarts should be loaded with sacks of flour and tents from the wagons. These 5 wagons should then be drawn with 12 oxen and the best cows.** This would have to be done in order to continue the journey with the strength we have left. We are not able to move very fast, but it's necessary

that we move as fast as possible in order to travel across the vast wilderness, where we are surrounded by wild people and animals. At 10 o'clock worship service was held where we received instructions and encouragement. In the afternoon the handcarts were repaired and put into the very best condition possible.

September 8 The weather: beautiful. At 5 o'clock a call to get up. At 8 o'clock prayer. An American came riding and told us that a few days ago he had camped with his family, 6 in number, about 70 miles from here and had gone out to hunt for buffalo.